

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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In re Patent Application of:  
Hideo HASHIMOTO

International Application No.: PCT/JP2006/304649

Application No.: NEW Art Unit: N/A

Filed: August 30, 2006 Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

For: WASHING METHOD

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**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

MS PCT  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS**

The following preliminary amendments and remarks are respectfully submitted in connection with the above-identified application.

This amendment includes:

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 4 of this paper.